



The Claim Post

Summer 2018

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Stay up to date on NWOPA events by visiting our new website:

www.nwopa.net

President's Message

Welcome to the 2018 Summer Edition of the NWOPA Claim Post!

The Industry has started to pick up in the past year with a rise in grassroots exploration projects. Cobalt and lithium seem to be the latest buzz!

We have now entered a new era of online staking through the MLAS system that launched April 10th this year. Please let us know your concerns or comments for the new system so we can be sure to represent you at the Minister's Mining Act Advisory Committee (MMAAC) meetings.

With the assistance of the NWOPA Awards Committee, we hosted our annual Awards Banquet in April at the **Ontario Prospectors Exploration Showcase (OPES)** in Thunder Bay which recognizes the achievements of the prospecting and mineral exploration community and sustains the legacy of NWOPA, its members and their contributions to the development of Northwestern Ontario.

I am happy to announce NWOPA's 2018-19 Board of Directors:



Jessica Bjorkman - President
Pam Coles - Vice President
Paul Nielsen - Treasurer
Cyndee Komar - Secretary
Shannon Zurevinski - Director
Mike Grant - Director
Dorothy Campbell - Director
Rudy Wahl - Director
Breanne Beh - Director
Daniel Lafontaine - Director

In the beginning of May, we held a General Meeting at Tony and Adams where members shared food and drinks and were able to meet the new board. The NWOPA directors gave a quick update on various events and topics.

The **6th Annual Mining Day** held June 23rd was another great hit; thanks to all the sponsors, exhibitors and volunteers who continue to make this event a huge success.

I wish everyone a safe and successful field season of exploration!

Jessica Bjorkman,
President, NWOPA

Meet the New Board of Directors

<http://www.nwopa.net/board-of-directors.html>



2018 - 2019 Board of Directors



Paul Nielsen, Cyndee Komar, Dorothy Campbell, Shannon Zurevinski, Dan Lafontaine, Pam Coles, Jessica Bjorkman, Breanne Beh, Rudy Wahl, Mike Grant.

Contact information for the new board can be found on NWOPA's website at <http://www.nwopa.net/board-of-directors.html>



NWOPA Christmas Party is being planned for Friday, **December 7, 2018** at the Da Vinci Centre in Thunder Bay. More information on the party will be sent out to members in October.

6th Annual Thunder Bay Mining Day

www.thunderbayminingday.ca/



Women
IN
Mining



MNDM

Thunder Bay Mining Day

On June 23, 2018, the **6th Annual Mining Day** took place at Prince Arthur's Landing. The festival features exhibitors, displays, speakers and activities all geared toward families and kids having fun while learning about the mining and exploration industries working in Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario. The hosts, volunteers and sponsors are to be thanked for their generous support of this event. The attendance was up substantially over last year and the feedback has been very positive from the kids and the exhibitors.

The exhibitors represented all phases of the mining industry from service companies, geophysical contractors, drilling companies, assay labs, mining companies and educational groups. They had interactive games and displays to entertain the children and were available to answer any questions the public had for them.

The displays gave the kids the opportunity to see large equipment used at the mine sites. Once again the gold panning was as popular as ever with everyone taking a piece of gold home.

The BBQ tent hosted by **Women in Mining – Northwestern Ontario** was once again a hit. All proceeds from the BBQ will be put toward WIM's second \$1000 scholarship that will be given next year to a student from Confederation College. In May 2018, WIM's first scholarship was awarded to **Brittany Ramsay**, Lakehead University geology graduate continuing with her Masters in Geology at LU. John Mason has graciously donated a beautiful trophy for the scholarship winners.

A new addition this year was a giveaway of a children's book about Mining titled "*Underground*", written by Theresa Nyabeze. Thanks to the many donations received we were able to provide copies of this educational book that talks about Health & Safety in underground Mining to the attendees.

The festival gallery of pictures can be viewed on the website: www.thunderbayminingday.ca

Thanks to the committee members, volunteers and participants and sponsors for their commitment to bringing this to the public.



Bob Chataway & Pam Coles, Co-Chairs, Mining Day Thunder Bay

**6th Annual
Thunder Bay
Mining Day**

www.thunderbayminingday.ca/

**Sponsors
&
Exhibitors**

Exhibitor List

Noront
Abitibi
TBGL
LU-Geology
NW Employment Works
Premier
MNDM
DST
Major Drilling
NAP
Mining Matters
TBT
Greenstone
Ask a Geo
Thunder Bay Public Library
New Gold
Barrick
Tired Iron Club
WIM
Chaltrek
Science North
NWOPA Gold Panning
MNRF
Anishinabek Employment &
Training Services
Mine Rescue
Metal Creek
Goldcorp
Manroc
Toromont

Sponsor List

Abitibi Geophysics
AGAT
Benton
CEDC
GoldCorp
Greenstone
Major Driling
Manroc
Metals Creek
NAP
Noront
OMA
OPA
Premier
Pure Gold
Sling Choker
Superior Rift Geoconsulting
TBT
Theresa Nyabeze (Mining Book)
White Metals
Wolfden



Northwestern
Ontario Prospectors
Association

Awards Dinner

&

Winners

www.nwopa.net

NWOPA 2017 Awards Dinner & Ceremony - Tuesday, April 3, 2018

The **Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association (NWOPA)** Awards Dinner honouring awards for 2017 was held on the evening of Tuesday, April 3 at the **2018 Ontario Prospectors Exploration Showcase (OPES)**, Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay. The theme of this year's showcase was "**Grassroots Prospects lead to New Mines!**" and the event highlighted exciting discoveries that continue to make Ontario one of the most attractive places in the world to explore. The OPES is a unique conference bringing together prospectors, junior and senior company reps, government geologists and industry suppliers. This focused networking event has been presented since 1996 and up until 2016 was known as the **Northwestern Ontario Mines & Minerals Symposium (NWOMMS)**. A Core Shack room highlighted the rocks & geology of company projects. Presentations & technical displays were hosted by prospectors, industry and government personnel.

Since 2001, NWOPA has presented awards recognizing lifetime achievements, mineral discoveries and mine developments. Lifetime achievement is based upon cumulative work, discoveries and contributions to the prospecting, exploration and mining community. The **Bernie Schnieders Discovery of the Year Award** recognizes an exceptional discovery in Northwestern Ontario during the previous calendar year with the **Developer of the Year Award** recognizing an outstanding mineral development during the previous calendar year. In 2010, NWOPA added the **Dan Calvert Distinguished Service Award** to acknowledge exceptional service to the mineral exploration community. The award was named in honour of Dan Calvert and in 2016 NWOPA renamed the **Lifetime Achievement Award** in honour of **Dave Christianson**; both of these gentlemen were long-time prospectors and supporters of mineral exploration in Northwestern Ontario.

Cyndee Komar, Secretary, NWOPA



Northwestern
Ontario Prospectors
Association
Awards Dinner
&
Winners

www.nwopa.net

NWOPA & the NWOPA Awards Committee
are pleased to announce the 2017 recipients:

Dan Calvert Distinguished Service Award:

Robert Chataway



Dave Christianson Lifetime Achievement Award:

Gary Peacock





Northwestern
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www.nwopa.net

Dave Christianson Lifetime Achievement Award:

Bill Spade



Dave Christianson Lifetime Achievement Awards:

Carmen Storey



Andreas Lichtblau (Regional Resident Geologist –Red Lake) and Greg Paju (District Geologist - Thunder Bay North) accept the award on Carmen's behalf.



Northwestern
Ontario Prospectors
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Awards Dinner
&
Winners

www.nwopa.net

Bernie Schnieders Discovery of the Year (2017):

Benton Resources Inc., Traxxin Resources Inc., Ian Kerlake and James Brown – Bedivere Gold Project (Traxxin Zone)



Developer of the Year (2017):

Pure Gold Mining Inc. – Madsen Gold Project





Northwestern
Ontario Prospectors
Association

Awards Dinner

&

Winners



Bernie Schnieder's Memorial Award



Lakehead
UNIVERSITY

Department of
Geology

The **Bernie Schnieders Memorial Award** was created in loving memory of Bernie by his family, friends and colleagues to support graduate students. The LU Geology Department would like to thank all of those who contributed to the fund for their generous support.

Kira Arnold was presented with the 2018 award at the NWOPA Awards banquet this past spring. Kira is a second-year MSc students working under the supervision of Dr. Pete Hollings. Her research investigates the geology and geochemistry of the Terrace Bay Batholith. Congratulations, Kira!



LU SEG

For more information on the Lakehead University chapter of the Society of Economic Geologists please contact Emily Gorner
egorner@lakeheadu.ca



Geologists & Lakehead University Students travel to Iceland

On July 26th, 2017, 16 geologists from Canada and the US embarked on a 10-day geological tour of Iceland led by **Dr. Phil Larson** and **Dr. George Hudak**. This trip was run through the **Institute on Lake Superior Geology** and organized by **Al MacTavish** and **Peter Hinz**. We started in Reykjavik and over the ten days visited the Snaefellesnes peninsula in the west, drove southern coast to stops including the Laki lava field and Vatnajokull glacier, continued up to Myvatn in the northeast, then through the interior on the F-series highways.

Our trip had many highlights; we hiked on the Svinafelljokull glacier where a frustrated tour guide verbally accosted us because we were walking around on our own while his tour group had to pay \$300 per person for that privilege. We walked through the Krafla lava fields in the northeast where we explored a lava flow from the 1980's; we even stood on the mid-Atlantic rift where we had one foot in North America and one foot in Europe! It was at the Krafla lava fields where Phil "initiated" us all to Iceland. We ate traditional fermented shark, Hakarl, along with a shot of Brennivin, a clear, unsweetened schnapps- it was an experience, for sure. The drive through the central highlands included Europe's largest desert and the F910 highway where it took 9 hours to cover 125 kilometers! We all agreed that none of us had ever driven a rougher road.

All-in-all the trip was fascinating on many levels both geological and cultural, with many mind-blowing scenic vistas.

Peter & Sheree Hinz



LU SEG

For more information on the Lakehead University chapter of the Society of Economic Geologists please contact Emily Gorner
egorner@lakeheadu.ca



Lakehead University Students Heading to Ireland

The Lakehead University student chapter (LU-SEG) are getting ready for a 10-day field trip to Ireland, departing on July 19, 2018. **Dr. Pete Hollings and Roisin Kyne of the Irish Centre for Research in Applied Geosciences** will assist the field trip. This will be an excellent opportunity for students to gain exposure to various types of deposits including Gold, Salt and Irish/MVT deposits and of course the Giants Causeway.



Photo from: tiffanyeatworld.blogspot.com.au



New faces and a
“New Name” for
the Ministry of
Energy, Northern
Development &
Mines



Ontario
Geological Survey

Resident
Geologist
Program

New Faces in the Resident Geologist Program

Rohan Millar - Regional
Manager NW



Sheree Hinz – District Geological
Assistant, Thunder Bay



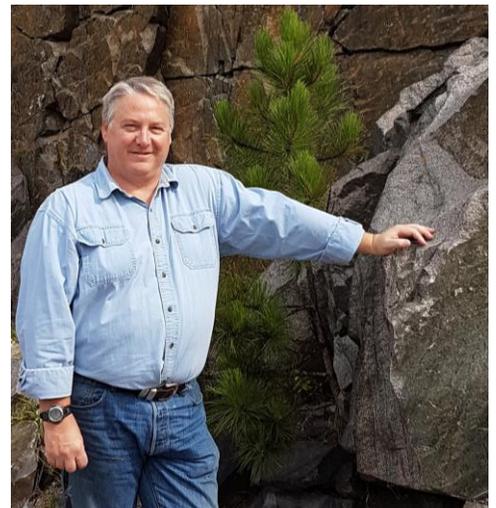
Kristen Wiebe - District Geological
Assistant, Kenora



Samuel Lewis - District
Geological Assistant, Red Lake



Bill Paterson - District Geologist,
Red Lake



Stories from "The Old Bush Rat"

Working in the bush prospecting and exploring has its rewards and its tense moments. We all can relate to the discovery of a good showing or the sighting of wildlife in a scene more likely to be found in National Geographic. These moments energize you on your walk back to camp.

But what about a different scenario when the end of the day ends with a twist. Back a while I was working in the Mishibishu Greenstone Belt in the early 90`s before the mines started up around there. As we were prospecting the area and noting the topo features I spotted a claim post. Nothing unusual about seeing it until I read what was written on the face of the post. It went like this:

*Henry and Leo was here
On 19-20 Jan 89
Spent the night
Very F..... cold!
About -28 C
Just with our sleeping Bag
No Food on the 20 Jan 89*

We ate Half a Granola Bar for Breakfast.

And prior to my finding the post another geologist had found the post and added her comment:

*Poor Boys
I hope it was worth the \$
Love Mary*

We meet characters every day and they all have a story to tell. This is what adds to the richness of the culture of working in the bush even under harsh conditions.

'til next time
The old bushrat